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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): NIR DIAGNOSTICS INC. [CA/CA]; P.O. Box 249, 44 Crawford Cr., Campbellville, Ontario L0P 1B0 (CA).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): SAMSOONDAR,

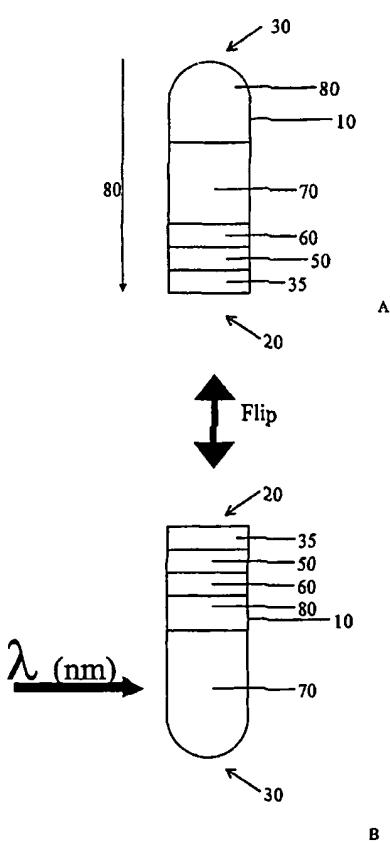
(74) Agents: SECHLEY, Konrad, S. et al.; Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP, 160 Elgin Street, Suite 2600, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1C3 (CA).

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(54) Title: SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF PLASMA IN A CLOSED-CONTAINER



(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a method of analyzing plasma from a sample of whole blood comprising a) obtaining a sample of whole blood from a subject in a container, the container comprising a first end and a second end, the first end of the container for receiving a sample of whole blood; b) centrifuging the container under conditions to separate the whole blood into a cell layer, a gel layer and a plasma layer wherein the centrifuging produces in relative juxtaposition the first end of the container, the cell layer, the gel layer, the plasma layer and the second end of the container; c) inserting into a spectrophotometric device the second end of the container which comprises the plasma layer in closest relative juxtaposition, to analyze the plasma from the whole blood.

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— *with amended claims*

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